



JUDICIAL PROFILE

Thomas W. O'Toole, who has extensive experience in criminal law, is the Criminal Department's Presiding Judge. He began his judicial career with Superior Court in Maricopa in January 1984. While his initial assignment was in the Civil Department, in 1986 he moved to the Criminal Department. In July 1987 he became Presiding Judge of the Criminal Department and served in that capacity until July 1990. After leaving the Criminal Department, Judge O'Toole has served Family Court, Civil Department, Criminal Department and Juvenile Court. In May 1997 he moved from Juvenile Court to return to the Criminal Department. Prior to his appointment to the Bench, Judge O'Toole was the Federal Public Defender for the District of Arizona from 1976 to 1984. That assignment followed his work as an Assistant Federal Public Defender for the District of Arizona from 1967 to 1976. Judge O'Toole is a 1960 graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a B.A. in Economics and is a 1966 graduate of the University of Arizona College of Law.



During his first assignment as Presiding Judge of the Criminal Department, Judge O'Toole implemented programs for improved case flow management and fair and effective operation of the department. Since September 1996, Judge O'Toole has served as a member of the Executive Committee of Superior Court in Maricopa County and is Vice President of the Arizona Judge's Association. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Boys Hope Girls Hope of Arizona, and of the Martha Ellen Tye Foundation, Marshalltown, Iowa.